

# H-1 Upgrade Program (UH-1Y/AH-1Z)



## DESCRIPTION

The H-1 Upgrade Program (UH-1Y/AH-1Z) replaces the current two-bladed rotor system on the UH-1N and AH-1W aircraft with a new four-bladed, all-composite rotor system that is coupled with a sophisticated, fully integrated, state-of-the-art cockpit. The UH-1Y and AH-1Z also incorporate a new performance-matched transmission, a four-bladed tail rotor and drive system, and upgraded landing gear. Additionally, structural modifications to the AH-1Z provide the aircraft with six weapons stations-two more than the AH-1W. The advanced cockpit, common to both aircraft, reduces operator work-load, improves situational awareness, and provides growth potential for future weapons and joint interoperability. The cockpit integrates on-board planning, communications, digital fire control, self-contained navigation, night targeting, and weapons systems in mirror-imaged crew stations. The UH-1Y and AH-1Z are approximately 84 percent common throughout, which significantly benefits MAGTF supportability. Developmental testing of the UH-Y and AH-1Z has demonstrated a marked increase in aircraft agility, maximum continuous

speed, and payload.

## OPERATIONAL IMPACT

The H-1 Upgrade Program is designed to resolve existing safety deficiencies, significantly improve operational capabilities, and reduce life-cycle costs. Commonality between aircraft will greatly enhance the maintainability and deployability of the systems with the capability to support and operate both aircraft within the same squadron structure.

## PROGRAM STATUS

The H-1 Upgrade Program is in the Operational Test phase, which will verify the effectiveness and suitability of these aircraft for the warfighter. The total program objective is 100 UH-1Ys and 180 AH-1Zs.

Procurement Profile:	FY 2007	FY 2008
Quantity:	11	20

Developer/Manufacturer:  
Bell Helicopter Textron Inc., Fort Worth, TX  
Integrated Cockpit: Northrop Grumman,  
Woodland Hills, CA  
AH-1Z Target Sight System: Lockheed Martin,  
Orlando, FL